

**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

VISCA et al

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Serial No.: New Application

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: November 29, 2001

Attorney Dkt. No.: 108910-00046

For: METHOD FOR REMOVING WATER FROM SURFACES

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 29, 2001

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 3-4, 6-7, and 9-11 as follows. A copy of the marked up original claims is attached to this response showing the changes as set forth in amended 37 CFR 1.121.

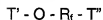
3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the perfluoropolyether component B) has number average molecular weight preferably in the range of 300-650.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the radical  $R_f$  of fluoropolyether type preferably comprises repeating units statistically distributed along

the polymer chain selected from:  $(CF_2CF_2O)$ ,  $(CFYO)$  wherein Y is equal to F or  $CF_3$ ,  $(C_3F_6O)$ ;  $(CF_2(CF_2)_zO)$  wherein z is an integer equal to 2 or 3;  $(CF_2CF(OR_f)O)$ ,  $(CF(OR_f)O)$  wherein  $R_f$  is equal to  $-CF_3$ ,  $-C_2F_5$ ,  $-C_3F_7$ ;  $CF_4R_5CF_2CF_2O$  wherein  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are equal to or different from each other and selected between Cl or perfluoroalkyl, preferably having 1-4 carbon atoms.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the value  $K^I$  is higher than 2.00 and preferably in the range of 2.00-3.00.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the perfluoropolyether component B) preferably has the following structure:



wherein:

$R_i$  has the above meaning;

$T'$  and  $T''$ , equal to or different, are selected from  $-CF_3$ ,  $-C_2F_5$ ,  $-C_3F_7$ .

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the amount of additive A) in the compositions is lower than or equal to 0.1% by weight, preferably lower than 0.05% with respect to the total weight of the composition.

10. (Amended) A composition according to claim 1.

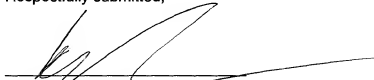
11. (Amended) Non ionic additive having a fluoropolyether structure according to claim 1.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 3-4, 6-7, and 9-11 are amended to correct the multiple dependencies thereof and to place this application into better condition for examination. No new matter has been added.

In the event that there are any fees due with respect to the filing of this paper, please charge Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Marked-up Copy of Amended Claims

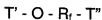
**MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS**  
**ATTY. DOCKET NO. 108910-00046**

3. (Amended) A method according to [claims 1-2] claim 1, wherein the perfluoropolyether component B) has number average molecular weight preferably in the range of 300-650.

4. (Amended) A method according to [claims 1-3] claim 1, wherein the radical  $R_f$  of fluoropolyether type preferably comprises repeating units statistically distributed along the polymer chain selected from:  $(CF_2CF_2O)$ ,  $(CFYO)$  wherein Y is equal to F or  $CF_3$ ,  $(C_3F_8O)$ ;  $(CF_2(CF_2)_zO)$  wherein z is an integer equal to 2 or 3;  $(CF_2CF(OR_f)O)$ ,  $(CF(OR_f)O)$  wherein  $R_f$  is equal to  $-CF_3$ ,  $-C_2F_5$ ,  $-C_3F_7$ ;  $CR_4R_5CF_2CF_2O$  wherein  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are equal to or different from each other and selected between Cl or perfluoroalkyl, preferably having 1-4 carbon atoms.

6. (Amended) A method according to [claims 1-5] claim 1, wherein the value  $K^I$  is higher than 2.00 and preferably in the range of 2.00-3.00.

7. (Amended) A method according to [claims 1-6] claim 1, wherein the perfluoropolyether component B) preferably has the following structure:



wherein:

$R_f$  has the above meaning;

$T'$  and  $T''$ , equal to or different, are selected from  $-CF_3$ ,  $-C_2F_5$ ,  $-C_3F_7$ .

9. (Amended) A method according to [claims 1-8] claim 1, wherein the amount of additive A) in the compositions is lower than or equal to 0.1% by weight, preferably lower than 0.05% with respect to the total weight of the composition.

10. (Amended) A composition according to [claims 1-9] claim 1.

11. (Amended) Non ionic additive having a fluoropolyether structure according to [claims 1-9] claim 1.